CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

14 SEPTEMBER 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Palo Alto – BlueBorne Bluetooth Attack Puts 5 Billion Devices at Risk
(U) Researchers at security firm Armis are warning users about a new attack using Bluetooth that affects almost 5.3 billion devices across iOS, Android, Windows, and Linux. The BlueBorne technique, which spreads through the air, could allow an attacker to take complete control of affected devices, networks, penetrate secure networks, and spread malware. The attack does not require the targeted device to be paired to the attacker's device, or even to be set on discoverable mode. In fact, this attack requires no user interaction at all. The company has reported these flaws to those affected and is working with them to get patches deployed.
SOURCE: 13 September 2017, PC Magazine

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Bans Use of Kaspersky Software in Federal Agencies
(U) Washington – The US government banned the use of a Russian brand of security software by federal agencies amid concerns the company has ties to state-sponsored cyberespionage activities. Acting Homeland Security secretary Elaine Duke ordered that Kaspersky Lab software be barred from federal government networks, giving agencies a timeline to get rid of it. Duke ordered the scrub because the company has connections to the Russian government and its software poses a security risk.
SOURCE: 13 September 2017, Washington Post

(U) Georgia – Equifax Says Web Server Vulnerability Led to Hack
(U) Atlanta – Credit reporting company Equifax Inc blamed a web server vulnerability in its open-source software, called Apache Struts, for the recent data breach that compromised personal details of as many as 143 million US consumers. Cyber security experts said it was among the largest hacks ever recorded and was particularly troubling due to the richness of the information. Equifax said it is determining with the assistance of an independent cybersecurity firm what exact information was compromised during the data breach.
SOURCE: 13 September 2017, Reuters

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – Teens Tried to Use Christmas Lights for Bomb
(U) Montreal – A young couple tried to use Christmas lights and sandpaper to make a homemade bomb, a prosecutor told a Canadian court yesterday in opening statements in the trial of the former college students. The items and a handwritten recipe to make a bomb were found after authorities searched a condo rented by El Mahdi Jamali and Sabrine Djermane in 2015. The then-teenage couple's arrest came at a time when international security forces reported that waves of young people, including college students from Montreal, were heading to Syria to join ISIS.
SOURCE: 13 September 2017, Reuters

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – $1.7 Million Worth of Fentanyl Discovered in SUV Gas Tank

(U) Temecula – Charges were filed against two women arrested last week when 53 pounds of fentanyl — with a street value of more than $1.7 million was found stashed inside the gas tank of the SUV they were in, authorities say. Gloria Lisbeth Gue Valladolid, 43, and Juana Araujo Vasquez, 30, each were charged in Riverside County Superior Court with possession and transportation of narcotics and controlled substances. US Border Patrol agents arrested the pair last Thursday and were turned over to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.
SOURCE: 13 September 2017, The Press Enterprise

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.

This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.